

## Volunteers With a Passion Create Change

People are taking their passion for issues such as the environment, animal welfare, poverty or illiteracy and doing something on a personal level. Last year



Jay and Cindy Gordon sign up to join 240 others planting trees in Hosp Grove.

- 1,811 volunteers contributed nearly 70,000 hours of service to their fellow Carlsbadians.
- 6.5 million volunteers contributed nearly 900 million hours of service to their fellow Californians.

### SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Area code 760 unless otherwise noted.

#### Board, Commission and Committee Openings

The City of Carlsbad is inviting applications from Carlsbad residents who are interested in serving on the Boards, Commissions and Committees. To see what positions will become vacant during 2009, go to [www.carlsbadca.gov](http://www.carlsbadca.gov), search for Boards and Commissions and click on Notice of Vacancies 2009. Members must be U.S. citizens residing in Carlsbad. To receive an application, contact the City Clerk's Office at 1200 Carlsbad Village Dr., call 434-2808 or e-mail [Clerk@ci.carlsbad.ca.us](mailto:Clerk@ci.carlsbad.ca.us).

#### Be a 2010 Census Taker

The U.S. Census Bureau is gearing up for the next Big Count by recruiting temporary, part-time census takers. The census results help determine your represen-

*Continued on back*

## Carlsbad Litter Buster

People like Beth Dickinson see a problem, ask a few questions and just get to work. "I live on the edge of Agua Hedionda Lagoon, and was tired of seeing all of the garbage. My husband and I would come back from our walks with bags full of trash." A casual conversation with Gary Hill about the perplexing litter problem along Carlsbad's treasured open spaces led Beth to form the Litter Busters in Spring 2007.

Today, the Litter Busters has 10 active volunteers. The group meets on the second and fourth Friday of each month and spends



Beth Dickinson and Paul Richter snag fishing line before it enters the ocean.

the morning picking up trash at one of Carlsbad's beaches, parks, trails, lagoons or other open spaces. "Some people just throw stuff out of their vehicles – washers, dryers, coolers, lumber and tires," laments Beth. They also find abandoned shopping carts, food and clothing. The city ensures that large items found on public properties be hauled away and disposed of properly.

Thanks in part to Litter Busters' suggestions, the city has installed trash cans and dog waste bag dispensers along

**"If you see an area of concern, the city will work with you to address it."**

selective easements, and an enclosed portable toilet at Hosp Grove Park. Beth's advice to others wanting to get involved, "If you reach out, if you're inquisitive, if you see an area of concern – the city will work with you to address it."

*"Do not wait for leaders; do it alone, person to person." – Mother Teresa*

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## SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES continued from front

tation in government, as well as how federal funds are spent in your community. As a census taker, you will play an important role in making sure the data is accurate. Thousands are needed for temporary jobs close to home with flexible hours. Go to [www.census.gov](http://www.census.gov) or call (866) 861-2010 for more information.

### Carlsbad Loves Kids Day

Saturday, March 21 • 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.



The event serves as a preview and sampling of the wide variety of summer camps provided by the Recreation Department. Help out at the craft table or with the carnival games. Contact Natalie at [naleg@ci.carlsbad.ca.us](mailto:naleg@ci.carlsbad.ca.us) or 602-7511.

### The Crossings Golf Course

Volunteer at this award-winning golf course and receive special playing privileges. Volunteers must be involved for two shifts a week. The shifts vary as the days lengthen and shorten, but are from 6-8 hours generally. Contact Sue at [sirey@ci.carlsbad.ca.us](mailto:sirey@ci.carlsbad.ca.us) or 434-2929.

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## CARLSBAD NEWS FOR YOU

### Cinema Society of Carlsbad presents: "Beyond Silence"

Powerful Academy-Award-nominated story of a young woman's battle for independence (1999, not rated, run time 101 minutes). Features a pre- and post-film discussion with Andy Friedenberg. Saturday, March 7, at Carlsbad City Library's Ruby G. Schulman Auditorium, 1775 Dove Ln. Pre-film discussion begins at 1:30 p.m. The film begins at 2 p.m. Admission is free.

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# Saving Large Dogs No Small Task

**I**t started with a simple plan: adopt a large dog from a shelter. Instead, Caroline Wright became a volunteer at the shelter. Six weeks later she made her first rescue. A Malamute-wolf hybrid with beautiful yellow eyes, clever as it was, was facing euthanasia. Many urgent postings on

**"I realized I could do more by starting my own rescue."**

Craigslist later, the dog had a suitable home on 19 acres, and Caroline had a new calling. "The door was opened!" explains Caroline. "I had attained success professionally, but something was missing. I realized I could do more by starting my own rescue." So after thorough research, she and her friend Sue Barbato started The Dog Squad Rescue. The all-volunteer, nonprofit group they created works closely with local shelters to find foster and permanent homes for hard-to-place dogs.

"We're one of only a few area shelters that accept large, mixed-breed dogs," reveals Caroline, "but even we only take those that can be rehabilitated."



The Dog Squad Rescue works to place large dogs.



Misha found a home.

Not that Caroline gives up easily on any dog. Last winter she flew to Kentucky to rescue 18 dogs, driving them back to Nevada through drifts of snow. Some rescued dogs have required weeks of obedience training or expensive veterinary care to get them adoption ready. Still others facing an uncertain future get sponsored by The Dog Squad Rescue at kennels until a home can be found for them.

Since its inception, The Dog Squad Rescue has officially rescued 134 lucky dogs and facilitated the adoption of another 40 through adoption events and Craigslist. It is an amazing local example of what one woman with a passion and a group of dedicated volunteers can do. If you're interested in adopting or fostering any of their dogs, visit their Web site at [www.thedogsquadrescue.org](http://www.thedogsquadrescue.org).



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